RESOLUTION of the CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS

By A. Johnson, Glidden, Goodman, B. Johnson

Encouraging Gender-neutral Single-user Restrooms in Minneapolis.

Whereas, a single-user restroom is understood to be a restroom with a lockable door and, at minimum, a sink and toilet, intended for use by one person with or without an assistant; and

Whereas, many businesses, educational facilities, and buildings of every description within Minneapolis offer single-user restrooms; and

Whereas, the State of Minnesota Building Code is being amended to incorporate the 2012 International Building Code, which will permit single-user restrooms to be gender-neutral; and

Whereas, ensuring public and private restrooms are easily and comfortably accessible to as many people as possible supports the city's goal to have One Minneapolis where disparities are eliminated so all Minneapolis residents can participate and prosper, and is a goal supported by the Transgender Issues Work Group; and

Whereas, the City of Minneapolis has amended City code on this day to eliminate all requirements to provide gender-specific single-user restrooms; and

Whereas, the provision of single-user restrooms is of tremendous value and convenience to families with children, those who need assistance, persons with disabilities, transgender individuals, and any others who value privacy or feel vulnerable in shared restroom facilities; and

Whereas, gender-specific restrooms have resulted in many people needlessly waiting for a particular restroom to be vacated while another identical restroom is available nearby; and

Whereas, many restroom providers would prefer their restrooms to be gender-neutral but have previously been unable to exercise a choice due to City and State code;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That the City of Minneapolis strongly encourages businesses, educational facilities, and buildings of every description within Minneapolis who offer single-user restrooms for use by employees and/or the public to provide such facilities in a gender-neutral manner wherever possible.

Be It Further Resolved that the City of Minneapolis directs its regulatory-compliance, zoning, and similar departments and staff to affirmatively promote gender-neutrality in the provision of single-user restrooms in existing or new construction within Minneapolis.